

VETERANS AFFAIRS, IOWA DEPARTMENT OF[801]

Notice of Intended Action

**Proposing rule making related to dental care expenses
and providing an opportunity for public comment**

The Department of Veterans Affairs hereby proposes to amend Chapter 14, “Veterans Trust Fund,” Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rule Making

This rule making is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code section 35A.13.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rule making implements, in whole or in part, Iowa Code section 35A.13.

Purpose and Summary

The proposed rule making removes the \$2,500 maximum amount paid in a 12-month period for dental care and changes the maximum amount to \$10,000.

Fiscal Impact

This rule making has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rule making, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rule making would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this proposed rule making. Written comments in response to this rule making must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on February 4, 2020. Comments should be directed to:

Melissa Miller
Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs
Camp Dodge, Bldg. #3465
7105 NW 70th Avenue
Johnston, Iowa 50131
Email: melissa.miller2@iowa.gov

Public Hearing

No public hearing is scheduled at this time. As provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b,” an oral presentation regarding this rule making may be demanded by 25 interested persons, a governmental subdivision, the Administrative Rules Review Committee, an agency, or an association having 25 or more members.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rule making by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rule making at its [regular monthly meeting](#) or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rule-making action is proposed:

Amend subrule 14.4(4) as follows:

14.4(4) *Expenses related to hearing care, dental care, vision care, or prescription drugs.*

a. The commission may provide health care aid to a veteran, to the veteran's spouse or dependents, or to the unremarried spouse of a deceased veteran for dental care, including dentures; vision care, including eyeglass frames and lenses; hearing care, including hearing aids; and prescription drugs that are not covered by the veterans affairs medical center.

b. The maximum amount that may be paid under this subrule for any consecutive 12-month period may not exceed ~~\$2,500~~ \$10,000 for dental care, \$500 for vision care, \$1,500 per ear for hearing care, and \$1,500 for prescription drugs. Lifetime maximum benefit: \$10,000.

c. The commission shall not provide health care aid under this subrule unless the aid recipient's health care provider agrees to accept, as full payment for the health care provided, the amount of the payment; the amount of the recipient's health insurance or other third-party payments, if any; and the amount that the commission determines the veteran is capable of paying. Payment under this subrule will be provided directly to the health care provider. The commission shall not pay health care aid under this subrule if the available liquid assets of the veteran are in excess of \$15,000.

d. Applicants for assistance under this subrule will be required to provide the commission with an unpaid bill for service or an estimated cost of service from the health care provider and documentation of the need for the service. For prescription drugs, the applicant must produce documentation of the need for the prescribed drug and documentation stating whether a generic drug is available or appropriate. The commission payment will not exceed an estimated cost of service by a health care provider.